

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A fluid pump for pumping liquid, comprising:
a motor housing assembly having an inlet housing, a stator housing assembly, and an outlet housing;
wherein the stator housing assembly includes a substantially cylindrical metal case and an encapsulated stator assembly enclosed and sealed by a polymeric capsule member, and the polymeric capsule member defines a rotor cavity;
an impeller rotatably positioned in the inlet housing and having an impeller axis;
and
a rotor assembly rotatably located inside the rotor cavity and connected to the impeller for rotating the impeller for pumping liquid from the inlet housing to the outlet housing.
2. (original) The fluid pump of claim 1, wherein the inlet housing and outlet housing are fastened together to secure the stator housing assembly therebetween.
3. (original) The fluid pump of claim 1, wherein the metal case includes liquid flow passages formed therein by diffuser vanes and inner and outer walls of the metal case, thereby completely defining the liquid flow passages.
4. (original) The fluid pump of claim 1, wherein the polymeric capsule member comprises a thermally conductive, electrically insulative material.
5. (original) The fluid pump of claim 1 wherein the stator housing assembly further includes a front cover and a rear cover plugging opposing ends of the rotor cavity.

6. (original) The fluid pump of claim 5, further comprising inlet diffuser vanes formed on the front cover.

7. (original) The fluid pump of claim 1, wherein the rotor assembly includes a rotor with a rotor shaft.

8. (original) The fluid pump of claim 7, wherein the rotor shaft is supported by a front bearing and a rear bearing.

9. (original) The fluid pump of claim 8, wherein the rear cover contains a bearing seat for locating the rear bearing.

10. (withdrawn) A method of manufacturing an encapsulated stator assembly, comprising:

providing a front cover and a rear cover;

providing a hollow, substantially cylindrical metal case with a longitudinal axis and two open ends;

locating a stator assembly within the metal case;

temporarily capping the two open ends and encapsulating the stator assembly in a polymeric material; and

uncapping the two ends and attaching the front cover and the rear cover to the metal case.

11. (withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the polymeric material is thermally conductive and electrically insulative.

12. (withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the metal case includes liquid flow passages formed therein by diffuser vanes and inner and outer walls of the metal case, thereby completely defining the liquid flow passages.

13. (withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the front cover includes diffuser vanes formed thereon.

14. (withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein encapsulating the stator assembly in the polymeric material includes forming a cavity therethrough.

15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the front and rear covers are each configured to receive a bearing to support a shaft disposed within the cavity.